Board Welcomes New Members

The OSURA Board of Directors welcomes to membership a Senior First Citizen, a former French teacher, a classic car mechanic, two genealogists, and the owner of a Welsh Corgi. To find out Who’s Who, please read on.

Curt McCann arrived in Corvallis in 1936 and lays proud claim to having attended Harding School and Corvallis High School. He remembers “acquiring” mice and rats from the OSU Chemistry Department, much to the dismay of his mother. Curt began his college career at OSC in 1951, worked at Boeing while attending UW for a year, served a stint in the Air Force, and then returned to OSU to complete a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1962. He then worked in private industry for over twenty years, including 18 years with Neptune Microfloc in Corvallis. He began employment with OSU Facilities Services in 1985 and retired in 1997. Curt and his wife Pat (a fellow CHS grad) have one son, two daughters, three grandkids, and a cat. His many community activities include serving as a docent at the Hatfield Marine Science Center and an officer in regional professional engineering societies, as well as teaching photography for 4-H Summer School. His major interests include astronomy, cosmology, “Beaver ball,” keeping fit at Dixon Recreation Center, genealogy, and working on Pat’s 1953 MG TD. Curt sees OSURA as an opportunity to spend some of his own retirement time “giving back to Corvallis and OSU for all the great things they have provided me over many years.”

Bill Smart began his academic career as a teacher of French language and literature, but he later shifted to teaching English as a Second Language. He subsequently added admissions, advising, and recruitment responsibilities before coming to OSU in 1984. Here, he worked in the Office of International Education, advising students and faculty, and in the Office of Admissions, engaging in international student recruitment until his retirement in 2003. Bill is Past Chair of the Northwest region of the Association of International Educators. He is active with the First Presbyterian Church, the Corvallis-Uzhgorod Sister Cities Association, the Zonta Club, and Stone Soup. His interests include genealogical research, travel, photography, music, OSU sports and University of North Carolina basketball. A blue-blooded Tar Heel by birth and schooling, Bill was nevertheless seen sporting orange and black around town during the recent NCAA baseball championships and was overheard cheering the Beavers on to victory over his alma mater. Bill is excited about the opportunity to work in OSURA with and for his friends at OSU. “OSURA,” he says, “provides us with a way to support OSU while we watch the new leaders and students at the University move in new directions.”

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President's Message

This is my first Newsletter as OSURA President. I retired in 1997 from the College of Health and Human Performance, now the College of Health and Human Science. I was active in faculty governance and on many committees on the campus during those almost 30 years at OSU. Now it is a great pleasure to be President of OSURA and, along with an outstanding board, to serve retired faculty. This new organization has grown in the past six years, and we want to continue that growth with new members and new member services.

We have had two successful events already this fall. The Golf Tournament drew a big crowd of golfers to play the game and “non-golfers” to enjoy the social that followed. The committee, headed by Glenn Klein, had trophies for the golfers and many prizes for the attendees. We look forward to this event to begin each new academic year on the right note.

The Member Services Committee, chaired by Bill Wilkins, presented an excellent program on Estate Planning on October 2nd. Al Mukatis was the committee member in charge, and Kara H. Daley and Nadine R. Davison, attorneys, were the invited speakers. The audience numbered over 150 retirees and current employees. This presentation was recorded, as will most programs developed by this committee. The link to the video is available on the OSURA Web Site.

Programs for the year are in the development process. The Member Services Committee is planning a session on the Faculty Staff Fitness Program in January and is assuming the responsibility for the April Pre-Retirement Seminar that has been presented by OSURA on a bi-annual basis. The PERS Program, a popular selection last year, is scheduled for March 4 on campus. The Program Committee, under the direction of Bill Smart, President-Elect, is active and will soon have a list of opportunities for members and their guests.

The Board goals for the year include continuing to develop the committee structure of the organization. Current committees are: Program, Member Services, Volunteer, Finance, Scholarship, Communication, and Membership. These committees do not have a lot of meetings but will meet several times during the year to help with the smooth functioning of the organization. If you did not have a chance to volunteer for a committee and want to serve, please send an e-mail to me at heathk6@comcast.net. We would love to have more committee members.

Another goal is to continue to “grow the organization”. We want to continue to increase our membership by reaching out to the newly retired and to spouses and partners of all OSU retirees. The Membership Committee will lead this effort, and you can help by talking to any retired OSU employees about membership or bringing a guest to any event. We also want to sponsor activities that are of interest to our membership; let us know if you have suggestions. We also hope to continue to keep in touch through the Newsletter, mailings, our section of the campus directory, and through volunteer activities.

Three scholarship winners are attending OSU this fall with the help of OSURA. The purpose of the scholarships is to provide support for undergraduate students majoring in a subject that leads to a career in a field promoting healthy aging. The applicants last year were outstanding. Ron Lovell will chair the committee again this year and the winners will be introduced at the annual meeting.

The continued support of Luanne Lawrence, Vice President of University Advancement, is appreciated. The “institutionalization” of OSURA within this unit has made much of our growth possible. The University recognizes the importance of retired faculty and staff by allocating supportive funds and by providing part-time staff assistance.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the success of OSURA. As we begin our sixth year, it is a time to reflect on what OSURA means. It has been a real satisfaction to me to see old friends from the campus and to make new friends, and it is a great satisfaction to keep connected in a special way to this University that means so much to all of us.

— Kathy Heath, President
Maintaining Fitness in Retirement

OSU offers several opportunities for OSURA members wishing to maintain or improve their physical fitness. The OSU Faculty Fitness Program is one option. Others are available through the Dixon Recreation Center, which several members discovered directly during a tour conducted on June 21.

Dixon houses a number of programs and centers which may be of interest. These include: the Health and Fitness Connection, with massage, nutrition, physical therapy, fitness assessment and health promotion services; the Stevens Natatorium, with lap swimming, hot tub, dive well, and water fitness classes; and the Outdoor Recreation Center, which rents equipment for a variety of outdoor recreational activities. Dixon also features basketball, racquetball/handball, wallyball, and squash courts, an indoor walking/running track, a large weight room (with machines as well as free weights), two well equipped cardio rooms, three multipurpose rooms, and even a climbing center.

Anyone who has retired from OSU, faculty or staff, is eligible for membership at Dixon. Spouses of OSU retirees are also eligible, even if the OSU retiree is not a member. The first step in acquiring membership is to obtain an OSU ID in the basement of Kerr Administration Building. The ID should then be taken to the Recreation Service Desk in the Dixon lobby. Membership options are: daily ($6), term ($70), 9 month ($210), or annual ($244).

In addition to all the activities accessed through basic membership, Dixon’s Health and Fitness Connection offers classes in the Fit Pass program, which requires additional fees. Fees are daily ($4), term ($39), and annual ($100). Term and annual passes can be used for multiple classes. Members can drop by a class and try it out before purchasing a Fit Pass.

Classes for each term are listed on the Dixon website. Go to: http://recsports.org/orst/programs/fitness/index.htm and click on Current Term Schedule.

As mentioned above, retired personnel can also take advantage of the Faculty Staff Fitness program. This program was originated in 1984 by former Health and Human Sciences Dean Michael Maksud, with Bill Winkler as its first Director. It offers 30-40 classes each term and enrols over 700 faculty and staff of the university, as well as spouses/partners. In addition to the scheduled activity classes, FSF organizes companion activities and programs that relate to the central mission of enhancing individual wellness and fitness. A list of classes may be found at: http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/outhrch/fsf/index.html. Instructional staff includes the Program Director (Rochelle Schwab), volunteer faculty from the Department of Exercise and Sport Science, EXSS graduate students, emergency pool instructors, and undergraduate student majors.

An added advantage of FSF classes, according to one regular participant, is that “you don’t have to compare your body type to that of the undergraduate students who use Dixon.”

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Vice Provost for Student Affairs, she has also directed and taught in the College Student Services Administration graduate program. Jo Anne was named Corvallis Senior First Citizen in 1999. She has also been honored with distinguished achievement awards from Denison University, Indiana University, the National Mortar Board, and the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators. Two undergraduate scholarships are named in her honor. Locally, Jo Anne is active in the League of Women Voters, First Congregational United Church of Christ, OSU Folk Club Thrift Shop, Corvallis Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Willamette Criminal Justice Council. Jo Anne retired from OSU in 1995. Jo Anne and Cliff stay connected to OSU by sponsoring a Presidential Scholar, supporting the theatre and music programs, and attending basketball, football, and gymnastics competitions. Although they are regulars at Fitness Over Fifty, their Welsh Corgi, Maggie, gives them additional reason to walk several times a day. To “pass the time,” Jo Anne also enjoys gardening, reading, and knitting.

We are pleased to welcome three such outstanding and multi-talented individuals to the board. Their combined talent promises strong leadership for years to come.

Wondering about the status of your membership? Check your mailing label to find out!
I/We would like to renew/begin a membership with OSURA. Enclosed is the membership fee of $10 for each person. Donations above $10 are gladly accepted and may be specified to go to the Scholarship Fund. Please make checks payable to OSURA. Membership year runs from July 1 - June 30.

If you are not sure if you have paid your dues, please contact Shelly Houghtaling (see below).

Name___________________________________________Spouse/Partner’s Name________________________________________

Address__________________________________________

Street __________________________ City ______ State ______ Zip ______

Secondary Address: □ Winter  □ Summer  Donation: $_______ General $_______ Scholarship

Street __________________________ City ______ State ______ Zip ______

Phone__________________________ Email __________________________

Department retired from?________________________________________  What year did you retire?______________

Please return this form to Shelly Houghtaling, OSURA, University Events, Oregon State University, 205 Adams Hall Corvallis, OR 97331-2004. For questions call (541) 737-0724 or e-mail osura@oregonstate.edu.